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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2004-2007 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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# 1. Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (General; 2000)

## Introduction

Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF) is a non-governmental organization established on 17 February 1982. It was granted special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council on 22 May 1991, and reclassified to the general consultative status on 3 May 2000. In response to this upgrading, ACPF has played an even broader and more active role in the whole range of activities within the purview of the Council and its large constituency. In so doing, the expertise of ACPF in crime prevention and criminal justice is being fully utilized, further increasing its input in relevant areas. While there are a number of sub-regional (mostly intergovernmental) organizations, ACPF is the only region-wide entity providing a forum for the exchange of expertise and experience among different categories of participants from the public and private sector, including NGOs, civil society and the public at large.

### i. Aims, purposes and main course of action of the organization:

The aim of ACPF is to promote sustainable development, peace and stability in Asia and the world through more effective crime prevention and criminal justice policies and practices and mutual co-operation between all those concerned. ACPF seeks to enhance the capabilities of personnel working in this field through appropriate training programmes, especially those organized by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) and its alumni network. It also promotes collaborative action-orientated research and information exchange, organizing world conferences, international seminars and working group meetings for discussion and action in areas of mutual concern, fostering viable policies and joint strategies in line with the United Nations norms and guidelines in crime prevention and criminal justice.

ACPF continues to grow in its membership and activities. As the geographical scope of UNAFEI has widened, with trainees coming from Africa, Latin America, etc., the participating countries totalled 129 by the end of 2007. ACPF has expanded its membership to include countries of these regions, and is pursuing a more comprehensive approach in both its perspectives and targets, linked to sustainable development including issues of human security, situation of women, healthy growth of children, protection of the environment and alleviation of extreme poverty. ACPF World Conferences, convened in cooperation with host countries to highlight the priorities emphasized by the United Nations, usually in preparation for, or as a follow-up to its quinquennial Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), have further extended the reach of ACPF and the active collaboration of its committed membership.

By facilitating continuing contacts and ongoing co-operation between its members, many of them in decision-making positions, the ACPF reinforces the bonds of solidarity among its growing constituency, which includes partners in the private sector and the scholarly community. It undertakes various endeavours, including technical assistance activities, publishes relevant materials (e.g. ACPF TODAY) and sponsors special initiatives in support of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (UNCPCJP).

**Participation in United Nations activities**

ACPF attended and submitted written statements and/or made oral interventions at the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th sessions of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (UNCCPCJ), held in Vienna, Austria.

Resident representative of ACPF for Europe and Central Asia to the United Nations Office at Vienna represented ACPF at other United Nations meetings such as the 47th, 48th, 49th and 50th sessions of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the First (2004), Second (2005) and Third (2006) sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Panel Discussion on Foreigners in Prison (23 April 2007) organized by the International Commission for Catholic Prison Pastoral Care during the 16th session of the UNCCPCJ (23-27 April 2007), and the Symposium on Advancing the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter–Terrorism Strategy (17–18 May 2007).

Similarly, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, representatives of ACPF attended the following meetings: (i) 59th, 60th, 61st and 62nd regular sessions of the United Nations General Assembly; (ii) Special Sessions on one on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children; (iii) Substantive and organizational sessions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and of its functional Commissions, such as (a) Social Development; (b) Status of Women and (c) Sustainable Development; (iv) Urban Security organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the NGO "Caring Communities" (26 October 2006), noting the importance of including crime prevention in their future security initiatives.

ACPF submitted its Success Story summarizing its activities and significant experiences in working for the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) (29 July 2004), which was published and issued as a Compendium by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

ACPF has played and is continuing to play a significant role at the quinquennial United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its Preparatory Meetings. For the 11th UNCCPCJ, the ACPF contributed to the production of 2000 copies (1,400 in English and 600 in French) of the CD-ROMs containing the documentation from the First to the Tenth Congresses (1955-2000).

Mr. Minoru Shikita, the Chairperson of ACPF, is a Board Member of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (CPCJP), and he chaired the Ancillary Meeting on CPCJ in the Context of Natural Disasters: Lessons Learned (Bangkok, Thailand, 20 April 2005) jointly organized by the Council and the ACPF. The Chairperson presented the experiences and lessons learned at the Panel Discussion on the Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Urban Violence and Organized Crime (Vienna, Austria, 26 April 2007), jointly organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Italian NGO Libera International at the 16th session of the UNCCPCJ (Vienna, Austria, 23-27 April 2007).

The Indian representatives of the ACPF (i) participated at the 2007 Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) at the Innovation Fair for the Asian Region (Mumbai, India, 24-25 June 2007), organized by the United Nations DESA. The primary aim was to bring the best practices from the Asian region that have served as development models for "Strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, through the global partnership for development within the

framework of the MDG and the overall objectives of the United Nations Economic and Social Council"; (ii) Chaired the session of the round table which focused on the criminal justice system, presented a joint paper on "Improvement of Criminal Justice Administration to Alleviate Poverty in India".

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies and programmes**

ACPF has continued to support UNAFEI by (i) defraying a substantial part of the costs of the regular international training and seminar courses conducted at its headquarters in Fuchu, Tokyo, (Courses from 126th to 137th during the period 2004-2007); (ii) provided financial and technical assistance for seminars and projects carried out at UNAFEI and in various Asian and African countries. Seminars and training in 2007 were: (a) 13th Special Seminar on Criminal Justice for Senior Criminal Justice Officials of China; (b) 10th International Training Course on Corruption Control in Criminal Justice; (c) 8th Training Course on the Juvenile Delinquent Treatment System for Kenya; (d) 4th Seminar on Criminal Justice for Central Asia; and (e) 2nd Training Course on the Revitalization of Volunteer Probation Aid System in the Philippines).

ACPF held world conferences in different countries of the region: (i) International symposia related to the major United Nations priorities, as reflected in the UNCCPCJ and in the UNCPCJ Programme, have been held in conjunction with these meetings; (ii) 10th ACPF World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Macau, China, 23-25 November 2004) covered the substantive agenda items of the 11th United Nations Congress, and the Macau Declaration, adopted at the 10th ACPF World Conference, was reproduced as a United Nations document (Declaration adopted by the 10th ACPF World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Macau, China, 23-25 November 2004 by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation) and distributed at the 11th United Nations Congress. The 11th ACPF World Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Jakarta, Indonesia, 20-22 November 2006) focused on the follow-up discussion and consultation on the outcomes of the 11th United Nations Congress, and the Jakarta Declaration of the 11th ACPF World Conference was also reproduced as a United Nations document (The 11th Asia Crime Prevention Foundation World Conference/Statement submitted by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation) and distributed at the 16th session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, Austria, 23-27 April 2007).

Between the World Conferences, several ACPF Working Group Meetings (WGM) of experts from the region and from United Nations bodies concerned, were held in order to deliberate on various topics. Through these discussions, issues were clarified and relevant recommendations made, contained in their reports. As an example, the WGM convened as a contribution to the substantive preparations for the 11th United Nations Congress, was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 29 November-1 December 2003, and its report was distributed as a United Nations document (Report of the WGM on "The Plans of Action in Asia for the Implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice", organized by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation) at the 13th session of the UNCCPCJ (Vienna, Austria, 11-20 May 2004). Another WGM was held in Hong Kong, China, on 21 November 2004, before the 10th ACPF World Conference in Macau, China, to discuss the "Draft Guidelines and Commentaries on the Role of Criminal Law and Justice in the Alleviation of Extreme Poverty" prepared by ACPF India. Before the 11th United Nations Congress, the WGM on the "Role of Criminal Justice in Minimizing Socio-economic Damage Ensuing from Natural Disasters" was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 15-16 April 2005, and the results reported during the Congress at the Ancillary Meeting on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Natural Disasters: Lessons Learned (Bangkok,

Thailand, 20 April 2005). The second WGM on this topic was held in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, 10-13 March 2006, and the "Draft Guidelines and Commentaries on the Role of Criminal Justice in Minimizing the Socio-economic Damage Ensuing from Natural Disasters" drafted there, are being finalized by experts.

The Indonesia Crime Prevention Foundation, a chapter of the ACPF, held an International Seminar on Crime Prevention titled "Building International Cooperation against Terrorism, Focusing on Suicide Bombing as a Symptom of Terrorism" (Jakarta, Indonesia, 27-28 February 2006). The report of the Seminar was distributed as a United Nations document (Statement submitted by the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation on the report of the International Seminar on Crime Prevention "Building International Cooperation against Terrorism") at the 15th session of the UNCCPCJ (Vienna, Austria, 24-28 April 2006).

ACPF celebrated the 25th anniversary of its establishment in Tokyo, Japan, on 3 October 2007, and International Symposium on "Domestic Crimes" was held as part of its commemoration programme. The theme of the Symposium included violence against women within family settings, related to the main thematic debate of the 17th session of the UNCCPCJ (Vienna, Austria, 14-18 April 2008). The report was distributed at the session as a United Nations document (International Symposium on Domestic Crimes / Asia Crime Prevention Foundation).

During the reporting period resident representatives of ACPF attended the regular meetings of the United Nations Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in Vienna and in New York.

## 2. China Association for Science and Technology (Special; 2004)

### PART I. Introduction

China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) is an umbrella organization in the science and technology community of China. It is composed of various academic and professional societies, and serves as an important driving force for the development of the nation's science and technology. Objective of CAST is to serve the nation's economic and social development; to serve the improvement of scientific literacy of all Chinese; and to serve the scientific and technological personnel. Main tasks of CAST is to conduct academic exchanges, promote the development of various disciplines of science and technology, and advance independent innovation to carry forward scientific spirit, disseminate knowledge of science and technology, promote scientific thinking and methods, and conduct activities of science and technology among teenagers; to organize the scientific and technological personnel to participate in the formulation of national policies on science and technology; to conduct international scientific and technological exchange, promote international cooperation in the field of science and technology and develop friendly interactions with international science and technology community; and to conduct activities of continuous education and training, etc.

**PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

**i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.**

**1st Phase of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS):** 10-12 December 2004, Geneva, Switzerland. One representative attended this summit.

**High-level meeting in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction:** 13-24 June 2005, Geneva, Switzerland. One representative attended this meeting.

CAST was admitted as an observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) after application in September 2005.

**2nd Phase of WSIS, 16-18 November 2005, Tunis, Tunisia:** 6 representatives attended and a parallel NGO meeting was organized which was titled Chinese NGO in bridging the civil society, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and MDGs. One representative attended the NGO/Civil Society Roundtable/Workshops organized by Economic and Social Council of United Nations.

**11th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) of UNFCCC:** 3-10 December 2005, Montreal, Canada. 8 representatives attended this conference.

**General Assembly High-level meeting on HIV/AIDS:** 31 May-2 June 2006, New York, United States of America. One representative attended this meeting.

**Multi-stakeholder Consultation Meetings of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on E-Science of WSIS:** 22 October 2006 Beijing, China. One representative attended this meeting.

**Inaugural meeting of Internet Governance Forum of United Nations:** 30 October-2 November 2006, Athens, Greece. 6 representatives attended the main activities: (a) one workshop titled Global Culture for Cyber security was organized and a proposal on World Norm on Internet was submitted to the forum. One representative made a presentation at the main session of summing up. (b). One representative invited as the panellist to attend one of the four main sessions on Internet diversity.

**12th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) of UNFCCC:** 9-20 November 2006, Nairobi, Kenya. 6 representatives attended this conference and one side event titled Assessment on adaptability of different economic stages and brief introduction of China activities was organized.

**2nd Strategy Meeting of Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development of United Nations (UN GAID):** 27-28 February 2007, California, United States of America. One representative attended this meeting and made a presentation on the implementation plan of proposed project named Global Alliance for Enhancing Access to & Application of Scientific Data in Developing Countries (e-SDDC).

**60th General Assembly of World Health Organization:** 11-23 May 2007, Geneva, Switzerland. 4 representatives attended this conference.

**10th Session of Commission on Science and Technology for Development of United Nations:** 21-25, May 2007, Geneva, Switzerland. One representative attended this conference as an invited keynote speaker.

**8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific:** 19-23 August 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka. 5 representatives attended this conference.

**60th Annual Conference of DPI/NGO (Department of Public Information/NGO) of United Nations:** 5-7 September, 2007, United Nations headquarter, United States of America. 9 representatives attended the conference and workshop titled Assessment on Adaptability of Different Economic Stages was organized. One representative was invited as a panellist to attend the roundtable on "Climate Change: Scientific Evidence".

**GAID Global Forum on Youth and ICT-for-Development (ICTD):** 24-26 September, 2007, Geneva, Switzerland. One representative attended this meeting.

**2nd meeting of Internet Governance Forum of United Nations:** 12-15 November, 2007, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 4 representatives attended this forum and one workshop titled Global Culture for Cyber security was organized.

**13th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) of UNFCCC:** 3-15 December 2007, Bali, Indonesia. 10 representatives attended this conference and one side event titled Rethinking the role of capacity building in international climate change negotiation was organized.

**ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.**

Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals (MDG): (i) The Project of E-SDDC proposed by CAST, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), etc was approved by the UN GAID in the education cluster of communities of expertise. CAST is one of the leading organizations. (First Annual Report of the UN GAID, E/2007/CRP4 25 June 2007); (ii) CAST representative, Madam Hu Qiheng, was elected as a member of the Strategy Council of UN GAID from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2010. (UN DESA 08/121, 31 March 2008). Prof. Liu Chuang was invited to be the High Level Advisor of UN GAID; (iii) CAST is the member organization of UN-NGO-Informal Regional Network in Asia and Pacific Region (UN-NGO-IRENE/Asia-Pacific), formally launched jointly by the China NGO Network for International Exchanges and the NGO Section of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in Beijing on 17 March 2006.

CAST participated in many activities organized by UN-NGO-IRENE/Asia-Pacific. The themes of these activities all centered on the goals of Millennium Development Goals. Some of these activities were held in Beijing mainly including the following: (i) 58th Model Conference of DPI/NGO of the United Nations, July 2005. One representative attended this conference and made an oral presentation; (ii) 1st conference of UN-NGO-IRENE/Asia-Pacific, 16 March 2006. Two representatives attended the workshop and delivered a speech on Ecological Restoration, Alternative Livelihood and Sustainable Development. The Conference also came up with a recommendation paper as an input from the Asia and Pacific NGOs to the United Nations Economic and Social Council; (iii) Exhibition on the Chinese NGOs and Millennium

Development Goals, March 2007; (iv) 2nd conference of UN-NGO-IRENE/Asia-Pacific, 22 June 2007, Beijing, China. One Representative attended the workshop and delivered a speech on Rural Labour Transfer and Construction for New Countryside in China.

## 3. International Buddhist Relief Organisation (Special; 2000)

### PART I – Introduction

Our aims and objectives are to provide practical, financial and direct help to people and other living beings anywhere in the world, who are in conditions of need, regardless of their status, creed or geographical location. IBRO has continued to provide such support to people in many part of the world such as Sri Lanka, Zambia, Malaysia, India etc.

On a global basis all our programmes are staffed and run on an entirely voluntary basis, so that every penny donated reaches the needy.

In recognition of the untiring charity work, carried out by IBRO, in 2007, on the Recommendation of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Queen Elizabeth II bestowed the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) on our President, who accepted it on behalf of the entire organisation.

IBRO has also provided assistance to animal sanctuaries.

### PART II - Contribution of the Organisation to the work of the United Nations

**2004**. The following projects/activities received ongoing support, attendance and supervision of the IBRO President: (i) In Dar es Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania, IBRO established a nursery and is in operation for the last eight years. Support to Vocational Training in many subjects is ongoing; (ii) In Penang, Malaysia, a Home for Older Persons was supported by IBRO for the last years. Amatha Clinic for people of all ages was in operation with the support and supervision of IBRO; (iii) In Singapore a Health Centre for poor people is ongoing which includes Counselling, Stress Relief programmes etc.; (iv) France, Blanc Mesnil, a Health Centre being run for needy people. Programmes include Counselling, Stress Relief etc.; (v) Ongoing support and supervision by IBRO President in Sri Lanka, Upekkha Bo Sevana Welfare Centre. Welfare services for local people included training on computer, electronic, English, motor vehicle mechanic etc which are ongoing projects.

**2005**. Financial assistance to the following entries received ongoing support, attendance, and supervision by IBRO President: (i) In Milan, Italy, IBRO President visited IBRO's Stress Counselling and Meditation Health Centre and (ii) AWPA Animal Centre; (iii) Berlin, Germany, IBRO President and staff representative attended local humanitarian projects such as teaching, stress relief, counselling and status of women; (iv) For three weeks in May 2005 a special team of 14 from IBRO visited Sri Lanka tsunami and provided substantial financial support to the people suffering from this disaster. It also provided twelve containers of emergency goods. Permanent projects were initiated and established such as Nursery School for displaced and bereaved for 50 children and scholarship for 400 children from primary to university level. Some Projects were in collaboration with local United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

offices. (v) Small Industries for village people who have lost income; (vi) Refurbished buildings in Four Villages; (vii) Two IBRO International Public Relations Officers attended the following meetings at the United Nations headquarters in New York (a) 58th Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization (DPI/NGO) Conference in September 2005; (b) World Summit of Love and Peace United Nations Reform – Priorities of World Development for the implementation of Millennium Development Goals.

**2006**. In Sri Lanka, 12-30 April, IBRO International Public Relations Officer attended Tsunami Disaster projects and provided contributions, research and studies; joint sponsorship of Meetings on humanitarian activities and organised to expand further operational projects. Financial assistance was provided; (ii) 7-10 February, IBRO International Public Relations Officer attended the Indian Branch meeting to arrange to assistance to Mothers so their Children can have Primary education; (iii) In Singapore and Malaysia during the month of July, IBRO President attended the on going operational projects on health, children and status of women.

**2007.** During the months of July, August and September, IBRO President visited IBRO European Branches that is Italy, Germany, France and Switzerland, to expand the Health Centres. The German Health Centre now has a clinic providing especially acupuncture treatment for various ailments.

**Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals**

**IBRO** contributed to the following three geographical regions: Africa, Asia and Europe.

**Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.**

**ACTIONS:** (i) Children fed and given clothes with health facilities = 2080; (ii) People who needed provision of spectacles = 300,000

**Goal 2: Achieve universal education.**

**ACTIONS:** (i) Boys and Girls, Nursery Education finished = 240 (on going); (ii) Secondary Education to University Standard = 1680; (iii) School material provided = 24,221; (iv) Nursery Schools built and on going support and full maintenance provided = 2

**Goal 3: Health and Environmental.**

**ACTION:** (i) Provision of general medical care, Stress Relief, Counselling, Exercise (Gym) = 22; (ii) Drinking water systems established = 58

**Activities in Support of Global Principles.**

Every year we organize a large Assembly, to observe World Aid Day, and on the subject of overcoming Drug problems in the United Kingdom and abroad, via our 16 Branches, covering the continents.

Our Headquarters are in Birmingham, United Kingdom. The Offices and centre are open 365 days a year, with extensive facilities providing food for the needy, health and gym, counselling, stress relief, acupuncture, library, Meeting rooms, etc. all free of charge, without reference to creed, nationality or status.

**AFRICA:** One of our most substantial programmes over the past 10 years has been organising and funding the Tithandizane Clinic, in Zambia. We have a permanent project worker under the direct control from the United Kingdom. This Clinic serves 59 villages, proving medical and other support to AIDS victims, and clean drinking water.

## 4. People With Disabilities — Uganda (Special; 2004)

### PART I. Introduction

People With Disabilities Uganda (PWDU) is a national, non-profit, peace and disability rights organization based in Kampala, Uganda. Our mission is peace and accessible living for all. Our vision is to foster awareness, promote peace, and provide services that will help improve the status of people living with disabilities, and hence the people of Uganda as a whole.

### PART II. Contribution of the organization to the wo rk of the United Nations

**i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.**

PWDU maintains official relations with the United Nations agencies and seeks to interact positively with the United Nations entities to ensure their support in pursuance of its main objectives. PWDU makes an effort to assist in the accomplishment of United Nations goals by promoting activities aimed at securing equal opportunities for the persons PWDU represents.

Activities for the period 2004-2007

- PWDU Executive Director, Richard Mugisha attended the signing of the Nairobi Protocol on the prevention, control and reduction of small arms and light weapons in the Great Lakes Region in Nairobi, Kenya on 21 April 2004.

- PWDU representatives attended the Eastern African Network On Small Arms (EAANSA) conference in Nairobi, Kenya on 15 October 2004 to review progress made by governments in the implementation of the United Nations Program of Action and the Nairobi declaration on small arms and light weapons in the Great Lakes Region.

- PWDU Executive Director accompanied the Director of the Regional Center on Small Arms to the Second Biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the program of action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects held at the United Nations headquarters, New York 11– 5 July 2005.

- In full compliance with the leading role assigned to civil organizations concerning the prevention and eradication of small arms and light weapons, PWDU became the pioneer member of the Uganda National Focal Point. Small arms are the leading cause of disability in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa including Uganda. Effective control of small arms and light weapons proliferation will reduce gun violence and disability in the community.

- PWDU representatives attended the Economic Community of Central Africa (ECCA) workshop held In Kigali, Rwanda 20-21 September 2005 with the theme "A review of the

ECCA member States' progress in implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

- PWDU Executive Director attended the Regional Center On Small Arms (RECSA) Regional Human Security and Small Arms Researchers' Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya 9-11 October 2006.

- PWDU Director attended the Institute Of Security Studies workshop Windhoek, Namibia 16 December 2006 with the theme "African common position to the Review Conference on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects".

- Attended the United Nations Conference to review the implementation of the Programme of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons held at United Nations headquarters from 26 June to 7 July 2006. The conference however ended without agreeing on an outcome document.

- Participated in the 4th review conference of the Nairobi Declaration on the problem of the prohibition of illicit small arms and light weapons in the Great Lakes Region, Horn of Africa and the bordering states held in Kampala, Uganda on 17 April 2007.

- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 15 May of every year to be observed as the International Day of Families and the theme for 2007 "families and persons with disabilities" was celebrated by PWDU at a ceremony in Kampala attended by the Minister of State for the Elderly. The Director PWDU echoed the United Nations Secretary General's message for the day by calling on the international community to assist families to empower and enrich the lives of the persons with disabilities in their households. "On this International Day of Families, let us dedicate ourselves to enabling the family, the most basic unit of society, to fulfil its role in ensuring that persons with disabilities enjoy full human rights and dignity, and flourish as individuals," said Mr. Mugisha.

- A two-day training strategy workshop for special needs persons held in Qatar on 22 May 2007 concluded with a proposal to replace the expression "people with special needs" with "people with disability". The meeting was a part of a series of discussions being organized by the Supreme Council of Family Affairs (SCFA) of Qatar to develop several group-oriented family strategies, ahead of working out a comprehensive national strategy. "We need to change the term "people with special needs" and replace it with "people with disability" because by saying special needs we include even others who also have special needs," said Mr. Richard Mugisha, the PWDU Director.

- PWDU Director attended and made presentations at the 4th annual Regional Civil Society Dialogue Forum with the theme "Assessing Impact of Small Arms Action and Enhancing Dialogue amongst Stakeholders" held in Nairobi, Kenya, 27-28 February 2007.

- PWDU Director attended The Wireless Opportunity for Disabled Persons: New Horizons for Assistive Technologies workshop, Chicago, United States of America on 23 May 2007. A flagship partnership initiative of the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development, G3ict is headed by W2i, the Wireless Internet Institute in cooperation with the Secretariat for the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities and UNITAR, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. Designed as a two-year program to foster multi-stakeholder participation and dialogue, G3ict is supported

by voluntary private sector companies. All stakeholders from the private sector, public sector, and non-governmental organizations concerned by issues related to ICTs and persons living with disabilities were welcome to participate in its work program.

- PWDU's interest in the workshop was the group discussion held on 23 May 2007 in the city of Chicago, United States of America, under the theme "Good practices supporting disabled employees access ICT applications" The discussion was chaired by Karen Tamley, Commissioner, Mayor's Office for People With Disabilities (MOPD), City of Chicago and James Farstad, President, client and Advisor to the City of Minneapolis, United States.

- Participants at the workshop were also briefed and introduced to the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs, Summary findings of the first G3ict Global Forum at United Nations Headquarters New York, 26 March 2007.

**ii) Activities in Support of Global Principles:** (i) Participation in planning sessions for Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities; (ii) Providing training and support for civil society activities in support of the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration (signed 15 April 2004); (iii) Coordination of civil society activities in support of the Nairobi Declaration; (iv) The Association of Donors of Education in Africa (ADEA) in 2005 commissioned studies on literacy in Uganda for its biennial meeting and PWDU was one of the civil organizations that participated.

During the period under review, PWDU developed strategies to attend more appropriately to the special needs of disadvantaged groups in the spectrum of blindness as blind children and women, the elderly and the multi-handicapped. Actions in support of blind children, women, the elderly and the multi-handicapped were one of the key priorities of PWDU for the period 2004-2007. PWDU will continue to raise public awareness the impact of small arms and light weapons in Uganda.

## 5. Sister to Sister International (Special; 2004)

### PART I. Introduction

Sister to Sister International (STSI) links women of African descent globally to the resources that connect, advance and strengthens them. STSI's constituents are primarily women of African descent throughout the diaspora, including the girl child and a sampling of young men. STSI's diverse network of intergenerational members, include women from grass roots, business, professional, and political backgrounds from throughout the diaspora. Their programs are focused primarily in the United States of America, Africa and the Caribbean and address Millennium Development Goal (MDG) numbers 2 (universal education), 3 (gender equality), 5 (maternal health) 6 (combat HIV/AIDS) and 8 (global partnership). In this regard, STSI sponsors educational forums and links youth to projects on the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Cyber school web site to impact literacy and promote universal education including literacy work with the Gambian National Library; sponsors parallel events including workshops and fora on thematic issues, during the Commission on the Status of Women's meetings annually, as well as presents papers and collaborates with the African Women's Caucus; fundraises for the Maama Kit Program a safe birthing initiative for women in Africa,

in conjunction with the World Health Organization and the Links, Inc.; sponsors testing and prevention activities that assist in combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic; sponsors a networking initiative that promotes global partnerships among African women's NGO's, and various resource persons.

## PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

### i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

Sister to Sister International (STSI) made significant progress promoting its mission and joint objectives with the United Nations, related to the MDGs, since receiving special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The organization's scope of work was on focus and strategic, enabling STSI to work collaboratively with various principal organs of the United Nations. These organs include the Economic and Social Council affiliates like, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as Department of Public Information (DPI), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The organizations collaborative efforts with the United Nations and its many non-governmental organizations have enabled them to play a catalytic role in advancing the principles of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies, Beijing Platform for Action and MDGs, among their global constituents and representatives in civil society. Representatives of STS worked with United Nations staff, member state representatives, and various other partners in civil society effectively, as a result of our partnership with the United Nations. The organization sponsored fora and parallel events during the CSW Sessions at the United Nations headquarters New York, for the past four years. These events occur on a "United Nations Day" planned by the organization, which provided an opportunity for local and global women of African descent, to examine progress on related thematic issues, through the lens of women of colour.

STSI representatives participated and presented written and oral statements during the following Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Sessions, and NGO CSW Planning Committee Meetings held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York: (i) 51st Session, 26 February to 9 March 2007, Theme: The Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child. Presented written and oral statements entitled "Eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child: An African Diasporan Perspective." The organization worked with the African Caucus' and others, during the debate. STSI sponsored three side events on 5 March, including a United Nations Tour for local students and a Briefing, a Thematic Workshop featuring Memory Phiri, a Youth AIDS activist from Zambia, and a Networking Reception with United Nations leaders, other actors and worked collaboratively with the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW); (ii) 50th Session, 27 February to 10 March 2006, Themes: Women in Development and Violence Against Women. The organization worked with the African Caucus' and others, during the debate. STSI sponsored three side events on 7 March, including a United Nations Tour for local students and Briefing, a Thematic Workshop, and Networking Reception including the Assistant Secretary General for Gender Affairs; (iii) 49th Session, 28 February to 11 March 2005, Themes: Gender Mainstreaming within entities of the United Nations System and the Beijing Platform for Action. The organization worked closely with the African Caucus and others, during the debate.

STSI sponsored three side events on 9 March, including a United Nations Tour for local students and Briefing, a Thematic Workshop, and Networking Reception with United Nations leaders and other actors; (i) 48th Session, 1-12 March 2004, Themes: The role of men and boys in achieving gender equality; Women's equal participation in conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace building. Local and global members participated in the STSI UN Day held on 7 March, which included a United Nations Youth Tour and Briefing, Thematic Workshop featuring various NGO and United Nations Partners along with a Networking Reception with United Nations leaders and other actors.

**ii) Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.**

**World Health Organization (WHO):** Sister to Sister International, Maama Kit Initiative in conjunction with the WHO and the Links, NGO, raised over $30,000 in support of a safe birthing initiative in Uganda (2003-2007). Met with representatives of WHO, Chair of the Africa Section, for Africa to roll out the program and sponsored fundraising drives and supported over 6,000 grass roots women with this initiative to date. Also, supported local NGO's in Niger with funding for Fistula Repair efforts.

**Department of Pubic Information (DPI):** Organization has played an active role in the Annual DPI/NGO Conference, namely during the 57th session in 2004, 58th session in 2005, 59th session in 2006 and 60th session in 2007 held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York. STS's Chief Executive Officer chaired the Networking Committee and co-sponsored workshop on environment, and facilitated youth participation.

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF):** Organization has representatives on the NGO Committee on UNICEF Working Group on Girls; collaborated on workshop speakers for 2006, CSW Thematic Workshop on the Girl Child, and initiatives aimed at empowering the Girl Child and ending violence.

**iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

**Goal 5 – Improve maternal health** – and reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio: through its efforts STSI provided (i) safe birthing Maama Kits to more than 6,000 women, in Uganda; (2003-2005): (ii) provided over 6,000 women with basic health literacy training, related to the spread of infection and how to ward it off. (2003-2005)

PUBLICITY: (i) The organization has garnered much publicity related to its programs that occur on United Nations Day during the (Commission on the Status of Women Sessions: 48-49-50-51) Gannett News Service 5 March 2007; 8 March 2006; 9 March 2005; 7 March 2004); (ii) Safe Birthing Initiatives – The Maama Kit Initiative received extensive news coverage, print, radio and television, featuring WHO representative responsible for Africa and STSI representatives; (iii) The organization also, utilized the internet to ensure that timely communication was disseminated to members and other constituents, globally.